

TITLE OF THE INVENTION

**Semiconductor Device Including Field-Effect
Transistor**

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5 Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a semiconductor device, and more particularly, it relates to a semiconductor device including a MOS field-effect transistor.

10 Description of the Background Art

In a MOS field-effect transistor formed on the surface of a silicon substrate, the interval between source/drain regions is generally reduced following refinement of the device, to easily result in punch through. In order to suppress such punch through, the impurity concentration of a channel region must be increased. When the impurity concentration of the channel region is increased, however, not only the probability of Coulomb scattering resulting from impurities is increased but also the thickness of an inversion layer is more reduced, and hence electrons flowing through the channel region are easily influenced by interfacial scattering on the interface between a gate insulator film and the silicon substrate.

25 More specifically, electrons are easily jammed to the

gate insulator film due to a gate electric field when the thickness of the inversion layer is more reduced, to inconveniently resulting in reduction of electron mobility.

5 A MOS field-effect transistor having an SOI (silicon on insulator) structure is expected as an exemplary countermeasure against such inconvenience. In the MOS field-effect transistor having an SOI structure, the thickness of a silicon layer formed with a channel region is so reduced as to suppress punch through, whereby the

10 impurity concentration of the channel region can be reduced. Thus, the silicon layer can be easily controlled with a gate electric field. Therefore, the gate electric field can be so reduced as to reduce the probability of jamming electrons to a gate insulator film on the

15 interface between the gate insulator film and the silicon layer. Thus, influence by interfacial scattering as well as Coulomb scattering resulting from impurities can be so reduced that electron mobility can be increased in the MOS field-effect transistor having an SOI structure.

20 In relation to the SOI structure, source/drain regions lifted up in an elevated structure are generally proposed in order to reduce the resistance of the source/drain regions. Such an elevated structure for source/drain regions is disclosed in "Transistor Elements

25 for 30 nm Physical Gate Length and Beyond", Intel

Technology Journal, Vol. 06, May 16, 2002, ISSN1535766X,
pp. 42-54, for example. According to the structure
disclosed in this literature, portions of source/drain
regions of a silicon layer serving as an active layer in
5 an SO structure are lifted up so that the thickness of the
source/drain regions of the silicon layer is larger than
that of a channel region. Thus, the thickness of the
source/drain regions can be increased while reducing that
of the channel region, whereby the resistance of the
10 source/drain regions can be reduced while improving
electron mobility. According to the structure disclosed in
the aforementioned literature, further, a gate electrode
consisting of a polysilicon film is formed on the channel
region through a gate insulator film consisting of a high
15 dielectric constant insulator film.

In a MOS field-effect transistor of the SOI structure
including the source/drain regions elevated in the
elevated structure disclosed in the aforementioned
literature, however, the gate electrode formed by the
20 polysilicon film is inconveniently depleted in the
vicinity of the gate insulator film. When the polysilicon
film is depleted in the vicinity of the gate insulator
film, the effective thickness of the gate insulator film
is increased to disadvantageously deteriorate the device
25 performance.

The gate electrode consisting of the polysilicon film may conceivably be replaced with a gate electrode consisting of a metal. When such a gate electrode (metal gate) consisting of a metal is employed, no metal is 5 depleted in the vicinity of the gate insulator film and hence the effective thickness of the gate insulator film is not increased.

When the gate electrode is made of a metal, however, the Fermi level of the metal is pinned on the interface 10 between the metal gate electrode and the gate insulator film, disadvantageously leading to difficulty in controlling a threshold voltage with a low voltage.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

An object of the present invention is to provide a 15 semiconductor device capable of inhibiting the Fermi level of a metal from pinning when employing a gate electrode consisting of the metal.

A semiconductor device according to a first aspect of the present invention comprises a pair of source/drain 20 regions formed on the main surface of a silicon region at a prescribed interval to define a channel region and lifted up in an elevated structure, a gate insulator film, formed on the channel region, consisting of a high dielectric constant insulator film having a dielectric 25 constant larger than 3.9 and a gate electrode including a

first metal layer coming into contact with the gate insulator film and having a work function controlled to have a Fermi level around the energy level of a band gap end of silicon constituting the source/drain regions.

5 The semiconductor device according to the first aspect, provided with the pair of source/drain regions having the elevated structure as hereinabove described, can reduce the resistance of the source/drain regions. Further, the semiconductor device provided with the gate 10 electrode including the first metal layer coming into contact with the gate insulator film and having the work function controlled to have the Fermi level around the energy level of the band gap end of silicon constituting the source/drain regions can suppress pinning on the 15 interface between the gate electrode and the gate insulator film, thereby inhibiting a threshold voltage from increase also when the gate electrode consists of a metal. The first metal layer having the controlled work function is preferably formed by deposition under 20 conditions of a low temperature (not more than -100°C) and a high vacuum (up to not more than 1×10^6 Pa) or by ALD (atomic layer deposition) under control at the atomic layer level.

25 In the aforementioned semiconductor device according to the first aspect, the source/drain regions may include

n-type source/drain regions, and the gate electrode may include the first metal layer having the work function controlled to have a Fermi level around the energy level of the conduction band of silicon. According to this 5 structure, an n-channel MOS transistor having the n-type source/drain regions can be easily inhibited from pinning on the interface between a gate electrode and a gate insulator film. In this case, the first metal layer may include an Hf layer.

10 In the aforementioned semiconductor device according to the first aspect, the source/drain regions may include p-type source/drain regions, and the gate electrode may include the first metal layer having the work function controlled to have a Fermi level around the energy level 15 of the valence band of silicon. According to this structure, a p-channel MOS field-effect transistor having the p-type source/drain regions can be easily inhibited from pinning on the interface between a gate electrode and a gate insulator film. In this case, the first metal layer 20 may include either an Ni layer or an Ir layer.

In the aforementioned semiconductor device according to the first aspect, the gate insulator film consisting of the high dielectric constant insulator film may include at least one film selected from a group consisting of an HfO_2 25 film, a ZrO_2 film and an HfAlO film.

In the aforementioned semiconductor device according to the first aspect, the gate electrode preferably includes the first metal layer having the controlled work function and a second metal layer, formed on the first metal layer, having a larger thickness than the first metal layer. According to this structure, a metal layer employed as a general wiring material can be applied to the second metal layer, whereby the gate electrode can be more easily fabricated as compared with the case of forming the gate electrode by only the first metal layer having the controlled work function requiring a relatively complicated fabrication process. According to the present invention, the terms "first metal layer" and "second metal layer" indicate a wide concept including not only layers consisting of simple metals but also layers consisting of metal compounds.

In the semiconductor device including the aforementioned second metal layer, the second metal layer is preferably a metal layer having an uncontrolled work function. According to this structure, a metal layer employed as a general wiring material can be applied to the second metal layer. In this case, the second metal layer may include at least either a TaN layer or a TiN layer.

In the semiconductor device including the

aforementioned second metal layer, the first metal layer may be formed in a U shape, and the second metal layer may be formed to fill up a region enclosed with the U-shaped portion of the first metal layer.

5 The aforementioned semiconductor device according to the first aspect preferably further comprises source/drain electrodes, formed on the upper surfaces of the pair of source/drain regions having the elevated structure to be in contact with the upper surfaces of the pair of

10 source/drain regions without interposition of metal silicide films, including third having a work function controlled to have a Fermi level around the energy level of the band gap end of silicon constituting the source/drain regions. According to this structure, the

15 source/drain regions and the source/drain electrodes can be brought into ohmic contact through extremely low-resistance junctions also when the source/drain regions have low impurity concentrations. Thus, the resistance of sources/drains consisting of the source/drain regions and

20 the source/drain electrodes can be further reduced, and a short channel effect can be suppressed with the source/drain regions having low impurity concentrations also when the semiconductor device is refined. Further, the impurity concentration of the channel region can be

25 reduced due to the suppressed short channel effect,

whereby the threshold voltage can be reduced.

In the semiconductor device including the aforementioned source/drain electrodes, the source/drain regions may include n-type source/drain regions, and the 5 source/drain electrodes may include the third metal layers having the work function controlled to have a Fermi level around the energy level of the conduction band of silicon. According to this structure, an n-channel MOS field-effect transistor having the n-type source/drain regions can 10 easily bring the n-type source/drain regions and the source/drain electrodes into ohmic contact through extremely low-resistance junctions also when the n-type source/drain regions have low impurity concentrations. In this case, the third metal layers may include Hf layers.

In the semiconductor device including the aforementioned source/drain electrodes, the source/drain regions may include p-type source/drain regions, and the source/drain electrodes may include the third metal layers having the work function controlled to have a Fermi level 15 around the energy level of the valence band of silicon. According to this structure, a p-channel MOS field-effect transistor having the p-type source/drain regions can easily bring the p-type source/drain regions and the source/drain electrodes into ohmic contact through 20 extremely low-resistance junctions also when the p-type 25

source/drain regions have low impurity concentrations. In this case, the third metal layers may include either Ni layers or Ir layers.

In the semiconductor device including the 5 aforementioned third electrode layers, the pair of source/drain regions having the elevated structure preferably include the third metal layers having the controlled work function and fourth metal layers, formed on the third metal layers, having a larger thickness than 10 the third metal layers. According to this structure, metal layers employed for general source/drain electrodes can be employed as the fourth metal layers, whereby the source/drain electrodes can be more easily fabricated as compared with the case of forming the source/drain 15 electrodes by only the third metal layers having the controlled work function requiring a relatively complicated fabrication process. According to the present invention, the terms "third metal layers" and "fourth metal layers" indicate a wide concept including not only 20 layers consisting of simple metals but also layers consisting of metal compounds.

In the semiconductor device including the aforementioned fourth metal layers, the fourth metal layers are preferably metal layers having an uncontrolled 25 work function. According to this structure, metal layers

employed as general wiring materials can be applied to the fourth metal layers. In this case, the fourth metal layers may include at least either TaN layers or TiN layers.

In the aforementioned semiconductor device according
5 to the first aspect, the silicon region preferably includes a silicon layer formed on an insulator. According to this structure, an active layer consisting of a silicon layer having the so-called SOI (silicon on insulator) structure can be formed with a small thickness, thereby
10 suppressing punch through. Thus, the impurity concentration of the channel region can be so reduced as to enable on-off control with a low gate voltage. Therefore, the probability of jamming electrons to the interface between the gate insulator film and the silicon
15 layer is reduced, whereby influence by interfacial scattering as well as Coulomb scattering resulting from impurities can be reduced. Consequently, electron mobility can be increased.

In this case, the semiconductor device preferably
20 further comprises element isolation insulator films formed on the outer sides of the pair of source/drain regions having the elevated structure to reach the insulator. According to this structure, element isolation can be easily performed in the SOI structure including the pair
25 of source/drain regions having the elevated structure.

A semiconductor device according to a second aspect of the present invention comprises a pair of source/drain regions formed on the main surface of a silicon region at a prescribed interval to define a channel region, a gate insulator film, formed on the channel region, consisting of a high dielectric constant insulator film having a dielectric constant larger than 3.9, a gate electrode, formed on the gate insulator film, including a metal layer coming into contact with the gate insulator film and source/drain electrodes, formed on the upper surfaces of the pair of source/drain regions to be in contact with the upper surfaces of the pair of source/drain regions without interposition of metal silicide films, including metal layers having a work function controlled to have a Fermi level around the energy level of a band gap end of silicon constituting the source/drain regions.

The semiconductor device according to the second aspect provided with the source/drain electrodes formed on the upper surfaces of the pair of source/drain regions to be in contact with the upper surfaces of the pair of source/drain regions without interposition of metal silicide films, including the metal layers having the work function controlled to have the Fermi level around the energy level of the band gap end of silicon constituting the source/drain regions as hereinabove described, can

bring the source/drain regions and source/drain electrodes into ohmic contact through extremely low-resistance junctions also when the source/drain regions have low impurity concentrations. Thus, the resistance of
5 sources/drains consisting of the source/drain regions and the source/drain electrodes can be further reduced, and a short channel effect can be suppressed with the source/drain regions having low impurity concentrations also when the semiconductor device is refined. Further,
10 the impurity concentration of the channel region can be reduced due to the suppressed short channel effect, whereby the threshold voltage can be reduced.

In the aforementioned semiconductor device according to the second aspect, the source/drain regions may include
15 n-type source/drain regions, and the source/drain electrodes may include the metal layers having the work function controlled to have a Fermi level around the energy level of the conduction band of silicon. According to this structure, an n-channel MOS field-effect
20 transistor having the n-type source/drain regions can easily bring the n-type source/drain regions and the source/drain electrodes into ohmic contact through extremely low-resistance junctions also when the n-type source/drain regions have low impurity concentrations. In
25 this case, the metal layers may include Hf layers.

In the aforementioned semiconductor device according to the second aspect, the source/drain regions may include p-type source/drain regions, and the source/drain electrodes may include the metal layers having the work function controlled to have a Fermi level around the energy level of the valence band of silicon. According to this structure, a p-channel MOS field-effect transistor having the p-type source/drain regions can easily bring the p-type source/drain regions and the source/drain electrodes into ohmic contact through extremely low-resistance junctions also when the p-type source/drain regions have low impurity concentrations. In this case, the metal layers may include either Ni layers or Ir layers.

The foregoing and other objects, features, aspects and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent from the following detailed description of the present invention when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a sectional view showing a semiconductor device according to a first embodiment of the present invention;

Figs. 2 to 8 are sectional views for illustrating a process of fabricating the semiconductor device according to the first embodiment shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 9 is a sectional view showing a semiconductor device according to a second embodiment of the present invention;

5 Figs. 10 to 19 are sectional views for illustrating a process of fabricating the semiconductor device according to the second embodiment shown in Fig. 9;

Fig. 20 is a sectional view showing a semiconductor device according to a third embodiment of the present invention; and

10 Figs. 21 to 33 are sectional views for illustrating a process of fabricating the semiconductor device according to the third embodiment shown in Fig. 20.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

15 Embodiments of the present invention are now described with reference to the drawings.

(First Embodiment)

The structure of a semiconductor device according to a first embodiment of the present invention is described with reference to Fig. 1.

20 In the semiconductor device according to the first embodiment, an embedded oxide film 2 is formed on a silicon substrate 1. A single-crystalline silicon layer 3 serving as an SOI layer is formed on a prescribed region of the embedded oxide film 2. The single-crystalline silicon layer 3 is an example of the "silicon region" or

the "silicon layer" in the present invention. The single-crystalline silicon layer 3 is formed with a pair of n-type source/drain regions 3b to hold a channel region 3a therebetween at a prescribed interval. A recess portion 3c is formed on the channel region 3a of the single-crystalline silicon layer 3. The thickness of the channel region 3a of the single-crystalline silicon layer 3 is about 30 nm, and the thickness of the source/drain regions 3b is about 100 nm. Thus, the source/drain regions 3b are lifted up with respect to the channel region 3a in an elevated structure according to the first embodiment.

Element isolation insulator films 4 of SiN, having a thickness of about 100 nm, reaching the embedded oxide film 2 are formed to enclose the single-crystalline silicon layer 3. A gate insulator film 6, consisting of an HfO₂ film employed as a high dielectric constant insulator film, having a U shape is formed in the recess portion 3c of the single-crystalline silicon layer 3 located on the channel region 3a. The HfO₂ film has a thickness of about 1 nm in terms of an SiO₂ film.

According to the first embodiment, an Hf film 7 having a thickness of about 10 nm is formed along the inner surface of the U-shaped gate insulator film 6. The work function of the Hf film 7 is controlled to about 3.9 eV. Therefore, the Fermi level of the Hf film 7 is located

in the vicinity of the energy level of the conduction band of silicon constituting the single-crystalline silicon layer 3. A TaN film 8 having a larger thickness than the Hf film 7 is formed to fill up a region enclosed with the 5 U-shaped Hf film 7. The Hf film 7 having the controlled work function and the TaN film 8 having an uncontrolled work function constitute a metal gate 10. The pair of source/drain regions 3b, the gate insulator film 6 and the metal gate 10 constitute a MOS field-effect transistor 10 having an SOI structure. The Hf film 7 is an example of the "first metal layer" in the present invention, and the TaN film 8 is an example of the "second metal layer" in the present invention. The metal gate 10 is an example of the "gate electrode" in the present invention.

15 Side wall insulator films 9 of SiO_2 are formed on the side surfaces of the U-shaped gate insulator film 6. Metal silicide films 5 of CoSi or the like are formed on the upper surfaces of the source/drain regions 3b.

According to the first embodiment, as hereinabove 20 described, the source/drain regions 3b lifted up with respect to the channel region 3a are so formed in the SOI structure that the resistance of the source/drain regions 3b can be reduced. Further, the metal gate 10 including the Hf film 7 coming into contact with the gate insulator 25 film 6 and having the work function controlled to have the

Fermi level around the energy level of the conduction band of silicon constituting the single-crystalline silicon layer 3 is so provided that pinning can be suppressed on the interface between the metal gate 10 and the gate 5 insulator film 6. Thus, the threshold voltage can be controlled with a low voltage.

According to the first embodiment, further, the Hf film 7 having the small thickness of about 10 nm with the controlled work function and the TaN film 8, which is a 10 conventional metal gate material, having the larger thickness than the Hf film 7 constitute the metal gate 10, whereby the metal gate 10 can be more easily fabricated as compared with a case of forming the metal gate 10 by only the Hf film 7 having the controlled work function 15 requiring a relatively complicated fabrication process.

According to the first embodiment, as hereinabove described, punch through is suppressed due to the single-crystalline silicon layer 3 provided with the channel region 3a of the SOI structure having a small thickness, 20 whereby the impurity concentration of the channel region 3a can be reduced. Thus, the semiconductor device can be on-off controlled with a low gate voltage. Therefore, the probability of jamming electrons to the interface between the gate insulator film 6 and the single-crystalline 25 silicon layer 3 is so reduced that influence by

interfacial scattering as well as Coulomb scattering resulting from impurities can be reduced. Thus, electron mobility can be so increased as to improve the working speed.

5 According to the first embodiment, the element isolation insulator films 4 of SiN are provided outside the source/drain regions 3b having the elevated structure to reach the embedded oxide film 2, whereby element isolation can be easily performed in the SOI structure 10 including the pair of source/drain regions 3b having the elevated structure.

15 The metal silicide films 5 of CoSi are formed on the source/drain regions 3b having the elevated structure, whereby the resistance of the source/drain regions 3b can be further reduced.

A process of fabricating the semiconductor device according to the first embodiment is now described with reference to Figs. 1 to 8.

First, an SOI substrate is prepared by forming the 20 single-crystalline silicon layer 3 on the silicon substrate 1 through the embedded oxide film 2, as shown in Fig. 2. Portions of the single-crystalline silicon layer 3 positioned on element isolation regions are removed by photolithography and dry etching, and an SiN film (not 25 shown) is thereafter formed with a thickness of about 150

nm. Excess depositional portions of the SiN film are removed by CMP (chemical mechanical polishing) or an etch-back method, thereby forming the element isolation insulator films 4 of SiN as shown in Fig. 2.

5 As shown in Fig. 3, a silicon oxide film 11 is formed on the surface of the single-crystalline silicon layer 3 by thermal oxidation. Arsenic (As) ions are implanted into the single-crystalline silicon layer 3 through the silicon oxide film 11 under conditions of injection energy of
10 about 10 keV and an injection rate of about $1 \times 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, and heat treatment is thereafter performed at about 1000°C for about 10 seconds, thereby diffusing and electrically activating the implanted impurity. Thereafter the silicon oxide film 11 is removed with dilute hydrofluoric acid or
15 buffered hydrofluoric acid.

As shown in Fig. 4, another silicon oxide film 12 is deposited by CVD to cover the overall surface with a thickness of about 200 nm. A polysilicon film 13 is deposited on the silicon oxide film 12 by CVD with a
20 thickness of about 70 nm. Resist films 14 are deposited on prescribed regions of the polysilicon film 13. The resist films 14 are employed as masks for dry-etching the polysilicon film 13 and the silicon oxide film 12, thereby forming a trench-type opening shown in Fig. 5. This dry
25 etching is controlled to automatically stop through the

etching time and the difference between the selection ratios for the silicon oxide film 12 and the single-crystalline silicon layer 3. Therefore, the single-crystalline silicon layer 3 is hardly cut. Thereafter the 5 resist film 14 is removed.

Then, the polysilicon film 13 and the silicon oxide film 12 are employed as masks for dry-etching the single-crystalline silicon layer 3. At this time, the polysilicon film 13 located on the silicon oxide film 12 is also simultaneously etched. In this case, the silicon oxide film 12 located under the etched polysilicon film 13 having the thickness of about 70 nm is exposed to change an emission waveform of plasma. The etching is stopped by detecting this change of the emission waveform. Thus, the 10 single-crystalline silicon layer 3 has the recess portion 3c as shown in Fig. 6. Assuming that polysilicon and single-crystalline silicon have identical etching rates for the purpose of simplification, the single-crystalline silicon layer 3 is etched by a thickness of about 70 nm, 15 to result in the thickness of about 30 nm of the channel region 3a. Thereafter the exposed surface of the recess portion 3c of the single-crystalline silicon layer 3 is thermal oxidized by a thickness of about 10 nm thereby forming a silicon oxide film (not shown), which in turn is 20 removed with dilute hydrofluoric acid or buffered 25

hydrofluoric acid.

As shown in Fig. 7, the HfO_2 film (high dielectric constant insulator film) is deposited on the overall surface of the silicon oxide film 12 including the recess portion 3c by CVD or sputtering with the thickness of about 1 nm in terms of an SiO_2 film, thereby forming the gate insulator film 6. The Hf film 7 having the work function controlled to a substantially constant value of about 3.9 eV is deposited on the gate insulator film 6 with the thickness of about 10 nm under an extremely low temperature condition of not more than -100°C , for example, causing no surface reaction on the interface between the Hf film 7 and the gate insulator film 6. Thereafter the TaN film 8 is formed by sputtering or CVD to fill up the region enclosed with the Hf film 7. Thereafter excess depositional portions of the TaN film 8, the Hf film 7 and the gate insulator film 6 are removed by CMP, thereby obtaining the flattened shape shown in Fig. 8. Thereafter the silicon oxide film 12 is removed by dry etching.

Finally, a silicon oxide film (not shown) is formed by CVD with a thickness of about 50 nm and anisotropically etched thereby forming the side wall insulator films 9 of silicon oxide, as shown in Fig. 1. Thereafter a Co film is deposited on the overall surface by sputtering and thereafter heat-treated thereby forming the metal silicide

films (CoSi films) 5 on the surfaces of the source/drain regions 3b. The semiconductor device according to the first embodiment is formed in the aforementioned manner. Thereafter an interlayer dielectric film (not shown) and 5 wiring portions (not shown) are formed.

(Second Embodiment)

Referring to Fig. 9, sources/drains of an elevated structure are formed by a single-crystalline silicon layer and metal layers in a semiconductor device according to a 10 second embodiment of the present invention, dissimilarly to the aforementioned embodiment.

More specifically, an embedded oxide film 22 is formed on a silicon substrate 21 in the semiconductor device according to the second embodiment. A single-crystalline silicon layer 23 serving as an SOI layer having a thickness of about 30 nm is formed on a 15 prescribed region of the embedded oxide film 22. The single-crystalline silicon layer 23 is an example of the "silicon region" or the "silicon layer" in the present invention. The single-crystalline silicon layer 23 is formed with n-type source/drain regions 23b to hold a channel region 23a therebetween at a prescribed interval. A gate insulator film 25 consisting of a U-shaped HfO_2 film (high dielectric constant insulator film) is formed on the 20 channel region 23a to have a thickness of about 1 nm in 25

terms of an SiO_2 film. An Hf film 26 having a work function controlled to about 3.9 eV is formed along the inner surface of the U-shaped gate insulator film 25 with a thickness of about 10 nm. A TaN film 27 having a larger thickness than the Hf film 26 is formed to fill up a region enclosed with the U-shaped Hf film 26.

5 The Hf film 26 is an example of the "first metal layer" in the present invention, and the TaN film 27 is an example of the "second metal layer" in the present invention. The Hf film 26 and the TaN film 27 constitute a metal gate 40. The metal gate 40 is an example of the "gate electrode" in the present invention. The pair of source/drain regions 23b, the gate insulator film 25 and the metal gate 40 constitute a MOS field-effect transistor 10 having an SOI structure.

15 Element isolation insulator films 24 of SiN are formed with a thickness of about 190 nm to enclose an element forming region while reaching the embedded oxide film 22. Side wall insulator films 28 of silicon oxide are formed on both side surfaces of the gate insulator film 25 20 and the side surfaces of the element isolation insulator films 24 closer to the element forming region respectively.

25 According to the second embodiment, Hf films 29 having a work function controlled to about 3.9 eV are formed with a thickness of about 10 nm to come into

contact with the n-type source/drain regions 23b along the side surfaces of the side wall insulator films 28. These Hf films 29 are formed on the surfaces of the n-type source/drain regions 23b to be directly in contact with these surfaces without interposition of metal silicide films or the like. TaN films 30 having a larger thickness than the Hf films 29 are formed to fill up regions enclosed with the Hf films 29. The Hf films 29 having the controlled work function and the TaN films 30 having an uncontrolled work function form source/drain electrodes 41.

According to the second embodiment, the source/drain regions 23b consisting of the single-crystalline silicon layer 23 and the Hf and TaN films 29 and 30, which are metal films, constitute the sources/drains of the elevated structure. The Hf films 29 are examples of the "third metal layers" in the present invention, and the TaN films 30 are examples of the "fourth metal layers" in the present invention.

According to the second embodiment, as hereinabove described, the Hf films 29 having the work function controlled to about 3.9 eV are provided on the source/drain regions 23b consisting of the single-crystalline silicon layer 23 to be in contact with the source/drain regions 23b without interposition of metal silicide films or the like so that the semiconductor

device can bring the source/drain regions 23b and the source/drain electrodes 41 into ohmic contact through extremely low-resistance junctions also when the n-type source/drain regions 23b have low impurity concentrations.

5 Thus, the semiconductor device can further reduce the resistance of the sources/drains consisting of the source/drain regions 23b and the source/drain electrodes 41 while suppressing a short channel effect with the source/drain regions 23b having low impurity concentrations also when the semiconductor device is refined. Further, the impurity concentration of the channel region 23a can be reduced due to the suppressed short channel effect, whereby the threshold voltage can be reduced.

10 15 In addition, the source/drain electrodes 41 constituted of the thin Hf films 29 of about 10 nm in thickness having the controlled work function and the TaN films 30, which are conventional source/drain electrode materials, having the larger thickness than the Hf films 29 can be more easily fabricated as compared with a case of forming the source/drain electrodes 41 only by the Hf films 29 having the controlled work function requiring a relatively complicated fabrication process.

20 25 According to the second embodiment, further, the Hf film 26 having the work function controlled to about 3.9

5 eV is so provided on the gate insulator film 25 that the Hf film 26 can be inhibited from pinning on the interface between the metal gate 40 including the Hf film 26 and the gate insulator film 25 similarly to the aforementioned first embodiment, whereby the threshold voltage can be inhibited from increase also when the metal gate 40 consists of a metal.

10 The remaining effects of the second embodiment are similar to those of the aforementioned first embodiment.

15 10 A process of fabricating the semiconductor device according to the second embodiment is now described with reference to Figs. 9 to 19.

15 As shown in Fig. 10, the embedded oxide film 22 is formed on the silicon substrate 21. A single-crystalline silicon layer (not shown) having a thickness of about 100 nm is formed on the embedded oxide film 22 and thereafter thermally oxidized, thereby forming a silicon oxide film 31 having a thickness of about 160 nm and the single-crystalline silicon layer 23 having the thickness of about 20 30 nm. Thereafter portions of the silicon oxide film 31 and the single-crystalline silicon layer 23 located on element isolation regions are removed by photolithography and dry etching. An SiN film (not shown) is deposited with a thickness of about 250 nm and thereafter flattened by 25 CMP or an etch-back method, thereby forming the element

isolation insulator films 24 of SiN as shown in Fig. 10. Thereafter a resist film 32 having a trench opening pattern is formed on prescribed regions of the silicon oxide film 31 and the element isolation insulator films 24.

5 The resist film 32 is employed as a mask for dry-etching the silicon oxide film 31, thereby working the silicon oxide film 31 in the form of a trench as shown in Fig. 11. This dry etching is controlled to automatically stop through the etching time and the difference between 10 the selection ratios for the silicon oxide film 31 and the single-crystalline silicon layer 23. Therefore, the single-crystalline silicon layer 23 is hardly cut. Thereafter the resist film 32 is removed. The exposed surface of the single-crystalline silicon layer 23 is 15 thermally oxidized for forming a silicon oxide film (not shown) having a thickness of about 10 nm, and this silicon oxide film is thereafter removed with dilute hydrofluoric acid or buffered hydrofluoric acid.

As shown in Fig. 12, another silicon oxide film 33 having a thickness of about 10 nm is formed on the exposed surface of the single-crystalline silicon layer 23 by 20 thermal oxidation, and a polysilicon film 34 having a thickness of about 100 nm is thereafter deposited to fill up the trench. Excess depositional portions of the 25 polysilicon film 34 are removed by CMP. At this time, the

silicon nitride films (SiN films) constituting the element isolation insulator films 24 function as stopper films. Thereafter the silicon oxide film 31 is removed by dry etching.

5 As shown in Fig. 13, another silicon oxide film 35 having a thickness of about 10 nm is deposited on the surface of the single-crystalline silicon layer 23 and the upper and side surfaces of the polysilicon film 34 by thermal oxidation, and arsenic (As) ions are thereafter 10 implanted into the single-crystalline silicon layer 23 under conditions of injection energy of about 15 keV and an injection rate of about $5 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2}$. Thereafter heat treatment is performed at about 1000°C for about 10 seconds, thereby diffusing and electrically activating the 15 implanted arsenic (As). Thus, the n-type source/drain regions 23b are formed to hold the channel region 23a therebetween. Thereafter still another silicon oxide film 36 is deposited by CVD with a thickness of about 200 nm and excess depositional portions thereof are removed by 20 CMP, thereby obtaining the shape shown in Fig. 14.

The polysilicon film 34 is removed by dry etching, and the silicon oxide films 33 and 35 located on the bottom and side surfaces respectively are thereafter removed, thereby exposing the surface of the channel 25 region 23a as shown in Fig. 15.

As shown in Fig. 16, the gate insulator film 25 consisting of the HfO_2 film employed as a high dielectric constant insulator film is formed by CVD or sputtering with the thickness of about 1 nm in terms of an SiO_2 film.

5 The Hf film 26 having the work function controlled to the substantially constant value of about 3.9 eV is deposited along the surface of the gate insulator film 25 by sputtering with the thickness of about 10 nm under the extremely low temperature condition of not more than -100°C ,

10 for example, causing no surface reaction on the interface between the Hf film 26 and the gate insulator film 25.

Thereafter the TaN film 27 is formed by sputtering or CVD to fill up the trench of the Hf film 26. Thereafter excess depositional portions of the TaN film 27, the Hf film 26 and the gate insulator film 25 are removed by CMP, thereby obtaining a flat shape shown in Fig. 17.

15 Thereafter the silicon oxide film 36 is removed by dry etching. A silicon oxide film (not shown) is deposited on the overall surface by CVD with a thickness of about 50 nm and thereafter anisotropically etched, thereby forming the side wall insulator films 28 of silicon oxide as shown in

20 Fig. 18.

As shown in Fig. 19, the Hf films 29 having the work function controlled to the substantially constant value of about 3.9 eV are deposited by sputtering with the

thickness of about 10 nm to cover the overall surface in the state coming into contact with the surfaces of the source/drain regions 23b of the single-crystalline silicon layer 23 under the extremely low temperature condition of 5 not more than -100°C, for example, causing no surface reaction on the interface between the Hf films 29 and the source/drain regions 23b. The TaN films 30 are deposited by sputtering or CVD with a thickness of about 200 nm to cover the regions enclosed with the Hf films 29.

10 Thereafter excess depositional portions of the TaN films 30 and the Hf films 29 are cut by CMP to electrically isolate the metal gate 40 from the TaN films 30 and the Hf films 29 forming the source/drain electrodes 41. Thus, the semiconductor device according to the second embodiment is 15 formed as shown in Fig. 9. Thereafter an interlayer dielectric film (not shown) and wiring portions (not shown) are formed.

(Third Embodiment)

Referring to Fig. 20, source/drain electrodes 81 20 having a controlled work function are directly formed on source/drain regions 53b of an elevated structure consisting of a single-crystalline silicon layer 53 similar to that shown in Fig. 1 in a semiconductor device according to a third embodiment of the present invention. 25 In other words, the semiconductor device according to the

third embodiment has a structure obtained by combining those of the semiconductor devices according to the first and second embodiments shown in Figs. 1 and 9 respectively.

More specifically, an embedded oxide film 52 is
5 formed on a silicon substrate 51 in the semiconductor device according to the third embodiment. The single-crystalline silicon layer 53 having a thickness of about 100 nm is formed on the embedded oxide film 52. The single-crystalline silicon layer 53 is an example of the
10 "silicon region" or the "silicon layer" in the present invention. An element isolation insulator film 54 of silicon oxide is formed on an element isolation region to reach the embedded oxide film 52. Extension regions 53c consisting of n-type low-concentration impurity regions
15 are formed in the single-crystalline silicon layer 53 to hold a channel region 53a therebetween. The n-type source/drain regions 53b are formed in continuation with the extension regions 53b.

A recess portion 53d is formed on the channel region
20 53a of the single-crystalline silicon layer 53. Thus, the source/drain regions 53b and the extension regions 53b are lifted up with respect to the channel region 53a in the elevated structure. A gate insulator film 55 consisting of an HfO_2 film (high dielectric constant insulator film)
25 having a U shape formed along the surface of the recess

portion 53d is formed on the channel region 53a. The HfO₂ film constituting the gate insulator film 55 has a thickness of about 1 nm in terms of an SiO₂ film.

An Hf film 56 of about 10 nm in thickness having a 5 work function controlled to about 3.9 eV is formed along the inner surface of the U-shaped gate insulator film 55. A TaN film 57 having a larger thickness than the Hf film 56 is formed to fill up a region enclosed with the U-shaped Hf film 56. The Hf film 56 having the controlled 10 work function and the TaN film 57 having an uncontrolled work function constitute a metal gate 80. The pair of source/drain regions 53b, the pair of extension regions 53c, the gate insulator film 55 and the metal gate 80 constitute a MOS field-effect transistor having an SOI 15 structure. The Hf film 56 is an example of the "first metal layer" in the present invention, and the TaN film 57 is an example of the "second metal layer" in the present invention. The metal gate 80 is an example of the "gate electrode" in the present invention. Silicon oxide films 20 58 and side wall insulator films 59 of silicon oxide are formed on the side surfaces of the U-shaped gate insulator film 55 and the element isolation insulator film 54.

Hf films 60 of about 10 nm in thickness having a work 25 function controlled to about 3.9 eV are formed to come into contact with the source/drain regions 53b in regions

enclosed with the silicon oxide films 58 and the side wall insulator films 59. TaN films 61 are formed to fill up regions enclosed with the Hf films 60. The Hf films 60 having the controlled work function and the TaN films 61 5 constitute the source/drain electrodes 81. The Hf films 60 are examples of the "third metal layers" in the present invention, and the TaN films 61 are examples of the "fourth metal layers" in the present invention.

According to the third embodiment, as hereinabove 10 described, the source/drain regions 53b and the extension regions 53c consisting of the single-crystalline silicon layer 53 are lifted up with respect to the channel region 53a in the elevated structure, whereby the resistance of the source/drain regions 53b can be reduced while reducing 15 the thickness of the channel region 53a. Further, the source/drain electrodes 81 including the Hf films 60 having the work function controlled to have a Fermi level around the energy level of the conduction band of silicon constituting the n-type source/drain regions 53b are 20 provided to be in contact with the surfaces of the source/drain regions 53b having the elevated structure, whereby the source/drain regions 53b and the source/drain electrodes 81 can be brought into ohmic contact through extremely low-resistance junctions also when the 25 source/drain regions 53b have low impurity concentrations.

Thus, the resistance of sources/drains constituted of the source/drain regions 53b and the extension regions 53c of silicon as well as the Hf films 60 and the TaN films 61 of metals can be further reduced, and a short channel effect
5 can be suppressed with the source/drain regions 53b having low impurity concentrations also when the semiconductor device is refined. Further, the impurity concentration of the channel region 53a can be reduced due to the suppressed short channel effect, whereby the threshold
10 voltage can be reduced.

According to the third embodiment, as hereinabove described, the metal gate 80 including the Hf film 56 having the work function controlled to have a Fermi level around the energy level of the conduction band of silicon
15 constituting the n-type source/drain regions 53b is provided on the channel region 53a through the gate insulator film 55 consisting of the high dielectric insulator film (HfO₂ film) so that the Hf film 56 can be inhibited from pinning on the interface between the metal
20 gate 80 and the gate insulator film 55, whereby the threshold voltage can be inhibited from increase despite employment of the metal gate 80.

Further, the metal gate 80, constituted of the thin Hf film 56 of about 10 nm having the controlled work
25 function and the TaN film 57, which is a conventional

metal gate material, having the larger thickness than the Hf film 56 can be more easily fabricated as compared with a case of forming the metal gate 80 only by the Hf film 56 having the controlled work function requiring a relatively 5 complicated fabrication process.

In addition, the source/drain electrodes 81, constituted of the Hf films 60 having the small thickness of about 10 nm with the controlled work function and the TaN films 61, which are conventional source/drain 10 electrode materials, having the larger thickness than the Hf films 60 can be more easily fabricated as compared with a case of forming the source/drain electrodes 81 only by the Hf films 60 having the controlled working function requiring a relatively complicated fabrication process.

15 The semiconductor device according to the third embodiment can be on-off controlled with a low gate voltage due to the channel region 53a, having a small thickness, consisting of the single-crystalline silicon layer 53 of the SOI structure. Thus, the probability of jamming electrons to the interface between the gate 20 insulator film 55 and the single-crystalline silicon layer 53 is so reduced that influence by interfacial scattering can be reduced. Consequently, electron mobility can be increased thereby improving the working speed.

25 A process of fabricating the semiconductor device

according to the third embodiment is described with reference to Figs. 20 to 33.

As shown in Fig. 21, the embedded oxide film 52 is formed on the silicon substrate 51. The single-crystalline silicon layer 53 having the thickness of about 100 nm is formed on the embedded oxide film 52. The surface of the single-crystalline silicon layer 53 is thermally oxidized thereby forming a silicon oxide film 64 having a thickness of about 5 nm. A resist film 65 is formed on a prescribed region of the silicon oxide film 64. This resist film 65 is employed as a mask for implanting arsenic (As) ions into the single-crystalline silicon layer 53 under conditions of injection energy of about 15 keV and an injection rate of about $1 \times 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-2}$. Thereafter heat treatment is performed at about 1000°C for about 10 seconds, thereby diffusing and electrically activating the implanted impurity (As). Thus, the n-type source/drain regions 53b are formed. Thereafter the resist film 65 is removed. Further, the silicon oxide film 64 is removed with dilute hydrofluoric acid or buffered hydrofluoric acid.

As shown in Fig. 22, another silicon oxide film 58 is formed by thermal oxidation. A polysilicon film 62 having a thickness of about 50 nm is formed on the silicon oxide film 58 by CVD. A silicon nitride film 63 is formed on the

polysilicon film 62. Other resist films 66 are formed on prescribed regions of the silicon nitride film 63.

As shown in Fig. 23, the resist films 66 are employed as masks for etching the silicon nitride film 63 in the 5 form of a trench. Thereafter the resist films 66 are removed.

As shown in Fig. 24, the silicon nitride film 63 worked in the form of a trench is employed as a mask for dry-etching the polysilicon film 62, the silicon oxide 10 film 58 and the single-crystalline silicon layer 53. Thus, a trench-shaped opening 67 is formed.

As shown in Fig. 25, the element isolation insulator film 54 of silicon oxide is formed to fill up the trench-shaped opening 67. Thereafter a further resist film 68 having a trench-shaped opening is formed on prescribed 15 regions of the silicon nitride film 63 and the element isolation insulator film 54. The resist film 68 having the trench-shaped opening is employed as a mask for dry-etching the silicon nitride film 63, thereby working the 20 silicon nitride film 63 in the form of a trench as shown in Fig. 26. Thereafter the resist film 68 is removed.

As shown in Fig. 27, the silicon nitride film 63 worked in the form of a trench is employed as a mask for partially dry-etching the polysilicon film 62, the silicon 25 oxide film 58 and the single-crystalline silicon layer 53

up to an intermediate portion of the single-crystalline silicon layer 53. In this case, an end point of the etching is detected from the emission waveform of plasma when the silicon oxide film 58 located under the 5 polysilicon film 62 is exposed, thereby temporarily stopping the etching. A time necessary for etching the single-crystalline silicon layer 53 by about 70 nm is estimated from a time T_1 required for etching the polysilicon film 62 having the thickness of about 50 nm.

10 Assuming that polysilicon and single-crystalline silicon have identical etching rates for the purpose of simplification, a time of $1.4T$ is necessary for etching the single-crystalline silicon layer 53 by about 70 nm. Therefore, the single-crystalline silicon layer 53 can be 15 etched by about 70 nm by removing the silicon oxide film 58 by etching and thereafter etching the single-crystalline silicon layer 53 by the time $1.4 T$. Thus, the recess portion 53d is formed in the single-crystalline silicon layer 53. The pair of n-type source/drain regions 20 53b are formed to hold the channel region 53a therebetween due to the formation of the recess portion 53d.

As shown in Fig. 28, still another silicon oxide film 69 is formed by thermal oxidation along the surface of the recess portion 53d of the single-crystalline silicon layer 25 53 with a thickness of about 5 nm. Arsenic (As) ions are

obliquely implanted into the inner side surfaces of the recess portion 53d of the single-crystalline silicon layer 53 with inclination of 20° to 30° under conditions of injection energy of about 15 keV and an injection rate of 5 about $1 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, thereby forming the n-type extension regions 53c. In this case, the aspect ratio of an opening subjected to the oblique ion implantation is preferably coincided with the aspect ratio of a portion (not shown) formed with another gate electrode. Thus, similar 10 extension regions can be formed also as to the portion formed with the other gate electrode. Thereafter heat treatment is performed under conditions of about 1000°C for about 10 seconds, thereby electrically activating the impurity (As). Thereafter the silicon oxide film 69 is 15 removed with dilute hydrofluoric acid or buffered hydrofluoric acid.

As shown in Fig. 29, the gate insulator film 55 of HfO_2 is formed by sputtering or CVD along the upper surface of the channel region 53a and the side surfaces of the recess portion 53d as well as the upper surface of the silicon nitride film 63. This gate insulator film 55 is formed with the thickness of about 1 nm in terms of an SiO_2 film. The Hf film 56 having the work function controlled to the substantially constant value of about 3.9 eV is 20 deposited by sputtering with the thickness of about 10 nm 25

along the surface of the gate insulator film 55 under an extremely low temperature condition of not more than -100°C, for example, causing no surface reaction on the interface between the Hf film 56 and the gate insulator film 55.

5 Thus, the Hf film 56 having the work function controlled to the substantially constant level of about 3.9 eV can be formed.

Thereafter the TaN film 57 is formed by sputtering or CVD to fill up a recess region enclosed with the Hf film 56 along the upper surface of the Hf film 56. Excess depositional portions of the TaN film 57, the Hf film 56 and the gate insulator film 55 are removed by CMP, thereby forming the metal gate 80 consisting of the flattened Hf film 56 and the flattened TaN film 57 as shown in Fig. 30.

10 15 Thereafter a resist film 70 is formed on a prescribed region. The resist film 70 is employed as a mask for removing the silicon nitride film 63 by etching, thereby obtaining the shape shown in Fig. 31. Thereafter the resist film 70 is removed.

20 A silicon oxide film is deposited on the overall surface with a thickness of about 50 nm and thereafter anisotropically etched, thereby forming the side wall insulator films 59 of silicon oxide as shown in Fig. 32. In this case, the etching is so performed as not to cut 25 the portions of the silicon oxide film 58 located under

the side wall insulator films 59. Thereafter the silicon oxide film 58 is removed with dilute hydrofluoric acid or buffered hydrofluoric acid, thereby exposing the surfaces of the source/drain regions 53b.

5 As shown in Fig. 33, the Hf films 60 having the work function controlled to about 3.9 eV are formed by sputtering with the thickness of about 10 nm to be in contact with the source/drain regions 53b while covering the overall surface. Thereafter the TaN films 61 are
10 formed by sputtering or CVD to fill up regions enclosed with the Hf films 60. Thereafter excess depositional portions of the TaN films 61 and the Hf films 60 are removed by CMP while electrically isolating the metal gate 80 from the TaN films 61 and the Hf films 60 forming the
15 source/drain electrodes 81. Thus, the semiconductor device according to the third embodiment is formed as shown in Fig. 20. Thereafter an interlayer dielectric film (not shown) and wiring portions (not shown) are formed.

Although the present invention has been described and
20 illustrated in detail, it is clearly understood that the same is by way of illustration and example only and is not to be taken by way of limitation, the spirit and scope of the present invention being limited only by the terms of the appended claims.

25 For example, while the present invention is applied

to a semiconductor device (MOS field-effect transistor) having an SOI structure in each of the aforementioned embodiments, the present invention is not restricted to this but is also applicable to a general semiconductor 5 device (MOS field-effect transistor) formed on a silicon substrate.

While the single-crystalline silicon layer 3, 23 or 53 is employed as an SOI layer in each of the aforementioned embodiments, the present invention is not 10 restricted to this but a similar effect can be attained also when a polycrystalline silicon layer is employed as the SOI layer.

While the present invention is applied to sources/drains having an elevated structure in each of the 15 aforementioned embodiments, the present invention is not restricted to this but is also applicable to unelevated sources/drains.

While the Hf film(s) 7, 26 and 29 or 56 and 60 are employed as metal films having a controlled work function 20 applied to the gate electrode and the source/drain electrodes 41 or 81 of an n-channel MOS field-effect transistor in each of the aforementioned embodiments, the present invention is not restricted to this but metal films having a work function around 4.0 eV close to the 25 conduction band of Si can be employed as metal films

having a controlled work function applied to a gate electrode and source/drain electrodes of an n-channel MOS field-effect transistor in place of the Hf film(s) 7, 26 and 29 or 56 and 60. For example, Al films having a work function of 4.28 eV may be employed.

While the present invention is applied to an n-channel MOS field-effect transistor in each of the aforementioned embodiments, the present invention is not restricted to this but is also applicable to a p-channel MOS field-effect transistor. In this case, metal films having a work function of around 5.0 eV close to the valence band of Si are employed as the metal films having a controlled work function in place of the Hf film(s) 7, 26 and 29 or 56 and 60. For example, Ni films having a work function of 5.15 eV or Ir films having a work function of 5.27 eV may be employed. Thus, the Fermi level of the Ni or Ir films is located in the vicinity of the energy level of the valence band of silicon constituting the single-crystalline silicon layer 3, 23 or 53.

While the Hf film 7, 26 or 56 serving as the underlayer of the metal gate 10, 40 or 80 is formed under the extremely low temperature condition of not more than -100°C, for example, in each of the aforementioned embodiments, the Hf film 7, 26 or 56 serving as the underlayer of the metal gate 10, 40 or 80, formed on the

gate insulator film 6, 25 or 55, has relatively low surface reactivity with the gate insulator film 6, 25 or 55. Therefore, the Hf film 7, 26 or 56 serving as the underlayer of the metal gate 10, 40 or 80 may not necessarily be formed under the extremely low temperature condition of not more than -100°C but may alternatively be formed under a temperature not extremely low by general CVD or ALD (atomic layer deposition) allowing deposition at the atomic layer level. In this case, however, there is a possibility of slight surface reaction on the interface between the Hf film 7, 26 or 56 and the gate insulator film 6, 25 or 55, leading to a possibility of slight fluctuation of the work function. Therefore, the material for the Hf film 7, 26 or 56 is preferably selected in consideration of the fluctuation of the work function. For example, a material having a work function slightly smaller than the energy (about 4 eV) of the conduction band of Si is preferably employed for the underlayer of a metal gate of an n-channel MOS field-effect transistor, and a material having a work function slightly larger than the energy (about 5 eV) of the valence band of Si is preferably employed for the underlayer of a metal gate of a p-channel MOS field-effect transistor.

While the Hf film(s) 7, 26 and 29 or 56 and 60 serving as the underlayers for the gate electrode and the

source/drain electrodes 41 or 81 are formed by sputtering under the extremely low temperature condition of not more than -100°C, for example, in each of the aforementioned embodiments, the present invention is not restricted to 5 this but the Hf film(s) 7, 26 and 29 or 56 and 60 serving as the underlayers for the gate electrode and the source/drain electrodes 41 or 81 may alternatively be formed by sputtering under the extremely low temperature condition of not more than -100°C and a high vacuum 10 condition of up to not more than 1×10^6 Pa, for example.

While the HfO₂ film is employed as the high dielectric constant insulator film in each of the aforementioned embodiments, the present invention is not restricted to this but a high dielectric constant film other than the 15 HfO₂ film may alternatively be employed for attaining a similar effect. The high dielectric constant film other than the HfO₂ film can be prepared from a ZrO₂ film or an HfAlO film, for example.

While the TaN film(s) 8, 27, 30, 57 or 61 are 20 employed as the upper layer(s) of the metal gate 10, 40 or 80 or the source/drain electrodes 41 or 81 in each of the aforementioned embodiments, the present invention is not restricted to this but the upper layer(s) may alternatively consist of another material employed for a 25 general metal gate. For example, the TaN film(s) 8, 27, 30,

57 or 61 may be replaced with TiN film(s).

While the plane orientation of the silicon substrate 1, 21 or 51 and the silicon layer (SOI layer) 3, 23 or 53 is not mentioned in each of the aforementioned embodiments, 5 a step of flattening the source/drain regions 3b, 23b or 53b at the atomic layer level and thereafter depositing metal layers on the source/drain regions 3b, 23b or 53b can be easily performed when employing a (111) substrate or a (111) plane. In other words, it is known that a (111) 10 plane of silicon can be flattened at the atomic layer level by selective wet etching with buffered hydrofluoric acid (BHF). In this case, the surface is terminated with hydrogen after treatment with the buffered hydrofluoric acid, and hence a clean and stable surface can be obtained 15 in the atmosphere at a degree identical to that in a high vacuum. When a metal layer having a controlled work function is deposited on the flat surface under a low temperature and a high vacuum according to the present invention, the interface between the metal layer and 20 silicon (source/drain region) can be approached to a more unpinned state.